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AUTHOR Lew, Gordon
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ABSTRACT

This is one of a series of elementary readers written in Cantonese and English, designed to familiarize children with the traditional major Chinese festivals celebrated by the Chinese in America. The booklet follows the activities of a Chinese-American family in its preparations for the Chinese New Year. (CLK)

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Preparing for Chinese New Year

新年到

Gordon Lew

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EDUCATION & WELFARE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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Children living in a cosmopolitan, multi-racial city have unique educational opportunities to gain a thorough understanding and appreciation of the richness of life in America. Certainly Chinese New Year plays an important part in our total American heritage.

RAY DEL PORTILLO
Director of Bilingual Education

WELLINGTON CHEW
Chinese Bilingual Supervisor

VICTOR LOW
Project Manager, ESEA Title VII

Excitement is in the air . . . . . .
Chinese New Year is here !

新年快要來到，
我們都很高興。

"What would you like to do?" asks Mother.
"Whatever you do, I'll do it too.
I'd love to follow you."

要準備過年，
媽媽事情多。
我要幫她忙，
我要幫她忙。

"Mother," say I.
"Chinese New Year is here.
I'd love to help you prepare."

Mother is mopping.
I am sweeping.

媽媽和我
清理房子。

把家裏打掃清潔，
來迎接新的一年。

Start the New Year right.
Get the dirt out of sight.

Knives and scissors are put away.
No one should get hurt on a holiday.

剪刀和刀要放開，
不要意外受了傷。

媽媽做糕餅，
我來洗碗碟。

Mother makes pastries and cakes.
I wash dishes while she bakes.

Shopping for New Year is fun.
New shoes and clothes for everyone !

我們同出外，
買新衣新鞋。

So many things Mother is buying.
It's so heavy . . . . . I'm not lying !

媽媽買的東西真多，
有吃的，有穿的，
也有玩的。

The market is full of goodies . . . . . .
Fruits, flowers and candies.

市場上，
東西多。
水果，
生花，
還有
我愛吃的
糖果。

Pieces of red papers we put on the wall.
Words of luck are written on them all.

我和媽媽
把好意頭的字
貼在牆上.

Some say, "peace"; some say, "health" .
Some say, "May the New Year bring you wealth."

Mother closes the bedroom door
To prepare red envelopes for us all.

"I want to help you, Mother dear."
"Not this time . . . . . do you hear !"

媽媽包紅封，
我要幫她忙。
媽媽說：
「謝謝你，
這些我來

This is a busy time.
This is a happy time.
Time for games. Time for toys.
Time to be extra good boys.

新年是快樂的日子，
我們在新年，
都要做好孩子。

U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION
ESEA Title VII
S.F. UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CHINESE BILINGUAL PILOT PROJECT

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